

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Original) A percussion instrument lift assembly, comprising:
 - a support rod;
 - two end-lifts connected by the support rod, each end-lift comprising
 - a frame;
 - a lifting frame coupled to the frame;
 - a lift extending between the frame and the lifting frame, the lift actuatable to move the lifting frame in a vertical direction with respect to the frame; and
 - a first and second platform adjustably coupled to the lifting frame and adapted to be selectively moved in a horizontal direction relative to the lifting frame to accommodate a percussion instrument.

2. (Currently Amended) ~~The A percussion instrument lift assembly of claim 1, wherein the lift comprises:~~ comprising:
 - a support rod;
 - two end-lifts connected by the support rod, each end-lift comprising
 - a frame;
 - a lifting frame coupled to the frame;
 - a lift extending between the frame and the lifting frame, the lift actuatable to move the lifting frame in a vertical direction with respect to the frame, the lift comprising an actuator coupled to the lifting frame; a gear coupled to the actuator; and a threaded crankshaft coupled to the lifting frame; and
 - a first and second platform adjustably coupled to the lifting frame and adapted to be selectively moved in a horizontal direction relative to the lifting frame to accommodate a percussion instrument.

3. (Original) The percussion instrument lift assembly of claim 2, wherein the actuator is a handle.

4. (Original) The percussion instrument lift assembly of claim 2, wherein the lifting frame comprises a threaded crankshaft aperture adapted to mate with the threads on the threaded crankshaft.
5. (Original) The percussion instrument lift assembly of claim 1, wherein the frame comprises a top, a bottom, and supports extending between the top and the bottom.
6. (Original) The percussion instrument lift assembly of claim 5, wherein the supports are vertical tubes and the lifting frame has apertures through which the vertical tubes extend.
7. (Original) The percussion instrument lift assembly of claim 6, wherein the bottom of the frame comprises vertical support tube apertures and a support rod-receiving member.
8. (Original) The percussion instrument lift assembly of claim 7, further comprising castor wheels coupled to the end of the vertical tubes.
9. (Original) The percussion instrument lift assembly of claim 1, wherein the lifting frame comprises mounting apertures to couple the first and second platform to the lifting frame via a fastener.
10. (Currently Amended) A The percussion instrument lift assembly of claim 9, wherein each of the first and second platforms comprise: comprising:
 - a support rod;
 - two end-lifts connected by the support rod, each end-lift comprising
 - a frame;
 - a lifting frame coupled to the frame;

a lift extending between the frame and the lifting frame, the lift actuatable to move the lifting frame in a vertical direction with respect to the frame; and
a first and second platform adjustably coupled to the lifting frame and adapted to be selectively moved in a horizontal direction relative to the lifting frame to accommodate a percussion instrument; and
wherein each of the first and second platforms comprise
a back plate,
a side plate coupled to the back plate,
a bottom plate coupled to both the back plate and the side plate; and
a mounting bracket coupled to the back plate, the mounting bracket is releasably coupled to the lifting frame.

11. (Original) The percussion instrument lift assembly of claim 10, wherein the mounting bracket has at least one aperture that receives the fastener.

12. (Original) The percussion instrument lift assembly of claim 11, wherein the at least one aperture is a slot.

13. (Original) The percussion instrument lift assembly of claim 12, wherein the mounting bracket comprises:

a top plate;
a bottom plate;
a side plate coupled to the top plate and the bottom plate; and
at least one aperture located in the top plate and the bottom plate.

14. (Original) The percussion instrument lift assembly of claim 1, wherein the end-lifts further comprise handles attached to the frame.

15. (Currently Amended) A The percussion instrument lift assembly of claim 1 comprising:
a support rod;
two end-lifts connected by the support rod, each end-lift comprising
a frame;
a lifting frame coupled to the frame;
a lift extending between the frame and the lifting frame, the lift actuatable
to move the lifting frame in a vertical direction with respect to the
frame; and
a first and second platform adjustably coupled to the lifting frame and
adapted to be selectively moved in a horizontal direction relative to the
lifting frame to accommodate a percussion instrument;
;wherein the two end-lifts are different sizes.
16. (Original) The percussion instrument lift assembly of claim 1, wherein the support rod comprises a first rod received within a second rod, the first rod selectively moveable within the second rod to control the amount of separation between the first and second end-lifts.
17. (Original) The percussion instrument lift assembly of claim 16, further comprising a support rod clamp coupled to one of the first and second rod and adapted to selectively engage the other of the first and second rod to prevent the sliding of the two rods with respect to each other.
18. (Original) A percussion instrument end-lift, comprising:
a frame;
a lifting frame coupled to the frame;
a lift extending between the frame and the lifting frame, the lift actuatable to move the lifting frame in a vertical direction with respect to the frame;

a first and second platform adjustably coupled to the lifting frame and adapted to be selectively moved in a horizontal direction relative to the lifting frame to accommodate a percussion instrument.

19. (Currently Amended) The percussion instrument end-lift of claim 18, wherein the lift comprises:

- an actuator coupled to the ~~lifting~~ frame;
- a gear coupled to the actuator; and
- a threaded crankshaft coupled to the lifting frame.

20. (Original) The percussion instrument end-lift of claim 19, wherein the actuator is a handle.

21. (Original) The percussion instrument end-lift of claim 19, wherein the lifting frame comprises a threaded crankshaft aperture adapted to mate with the threads on the threaded crankshaft.

22. (Original) The percussion instrument end-lift of claim 18, wherein the frame comprises a top, a bottom, and supports extending between the top and the bottom.

23. (Original) The percussion instrument end-lift of claim 22, wherein the supports are vertical tubes and the lifting frame has apertures through which the vertical tubes extend.

24. (Original) The percussion instrument end-lift of claim 23, wherein the bottom of the frame comprises vertical support tube apertures and a support rod-receiving member.

25. (Original) The percussion instrument end-lift of claim 24, further comprising castor wheels coupled to the end of the vertical tubes.

26. (Original) The percussion instrument end-lift of claim 18, wherein the lifting frame comprises mounting apertures to couple the first and second platform to the lifting frame via a fastener.
27. (Currently Amended) ~~A The percussion instrument end-lift of claim 26, wherein each of the first and second platforms comprise:~~ comprising:
- a frame;
 - a lifting frame coupled to the frame;
 - a lift extending between the frame and the lifting frame, the lift actuatable to
move the lifting frame in a vertical direction with respect to the frame;
 - a first and second platform adjustably coupled to the lifting frame and adapted to
be selectively moved in a horizontal direction relative to the lifting frame to
accommodate a percussion instrument; and
 - wherein each of the first and second platforms comprise
 - a back plate,
 - a side plate coupled to the back plate,
 - a bottom plate coupled to both the back plate and the side plate; and
 - a mounting bracket coupled to the back plate, the mounting bracket is
releasably coupled to the lifting frame.
28. (Original) The percussion instrument end-lift of claim 27, wherein the mounting bracket has at least one aperture that receives the fastener.
29. (Original) The percussion instrument end-lift of claim 28, wherein the at least one aperture is a slot.

30. (Original) The percussion instrument end-lift of claim 29, wherein the mounting bracket comprises:

- a top plate;
- a bottom plate;
- a side plate coupled to the top plate and the bottom plate; and
- at least one aperture located in the top plate and the bottom plate.

31. (Original) The percussion instrument end-lift of claim 18, wherein the end-lift further comprises a handle attached to the frame.

32. (Currently Amended) A percussion instrument lift assembly, comprising:

- a first and second end-lift, each end lift comprising
 - a frame;
 - a lifting frame coupled to the frame;
 - a lift extending between the frame and the lifting frame, the lift actuatable to move the lifting frame in a vertical direction with respect to the frame; and
- a platform coupled to the lifting frame and adapted to accommodate legs of a fixed height

a percussion instrument; and

- a support rod coupled to and extending between the first end-lift and second end-lift.

33. (Currently Amended) A ~~The~~ percussion instrument lift assembly of claim 32, ~~wherein the lift comprises:~~ comprising:

- a first and second end-lift, each end lift comprising
 - a frame;
 - a lifting frame coupled to the frame;
 - a lift extending between the frame and the lifting frame, the lift actuatable to move the lifting frame in a vertical direction with respect to the frame; and
 - a platform coupled to the lifting frame and adapted to accommodate a percussion instrument; and
- a support rod coupled to and extending between the first end-lift and second end-lift; and
- wherein the lift comprises

an actuator coupled to the ~~lifting~~ frame;
a gear coupled to the actuator; and
a threaded crankshaft coupled to the lifting frame.

34. (Original) The percussion instrument lift assembly of claim 33, wherein the lifting frame comprises a threaded crankshaft aperture adapted to mate with the threads on the threaded crankshaft.
35. (Original) The percussion instrument lift assembly of claim 32, wherein the frame comprises a top, a bottom, and supports extending between the top and the bottom.
36. (Original) The percussion instrument lift assembly of claim 35, wherein the supports are vertical tubes and the lifting frame has apertures through which the vertical tubes extend.
37. (Original) The percussion instrument lift assembly of claim 36, wherein the bottom of the frame comprises vertical support tube apertures and a support rod-receiving member.
38. (Original) The percussion instrument lift assembly of claim 37, further comprising castor wheels coupled to the end of the vertical tubes.
39. (Currently Amended) The percussion instrument lift assembly of claim 32, wherein the platform is a first platform and the assembly further comprises a second platform coupled to the lifting frame, the first and second platforms are adjustably coupled to the lifting frame and adapted to be selectively moved in a horizontal direction relative to the lifting frame to accommodate a the percussion instrument.
40. (Original) The percussion instrument lift assembly of claim 39, wherein the lifting frame comprises mounting apertures to couple the first and second platform to the lifting frame via a fastener.
41. (Original) The percussion instrument lift assembly of claim 40, wherein each of the first and second platforms comprise a mounting bracket releasably coupled to the lifting frame via fastener received within a least one aperture in the mounting bracket.

42. (Original) The percussion instrument lift assembly of claim 41, wherein the at least one aperture is a slot.

43. (Original) The percussion instrument lift assembly of claim 32, wherein the support rod comprises a first rod received within a second rod, the first rod selectively moveable within the second rod to control the amount of separation between the first and second end-lifts.

44. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ ~~The~~ percussion instrument lift assembly ~~of claim 43, further~~ comprising:

a first and second end-lift, each end lift comprising

a frame;

a lifting frame coupled to the frame;

a lift extending between the frame and the lifting frame, the lift actuatable to move the lifting frame in a vertical direction with respect to the frame; and

a platform coupled to the lifting frame and adapted to accommodate a percussion instrument; and

a support rod coupled to and extending between the first end-lift and second end-lift.;

wherein the support rod comprises a first rod received within a second rod, the first rod selectively moveable within the second rod to control the amount of separation between the first and second end-lifts; and a support rod clamp coupled to one of the first and second rod and adapted to selectively engage the other of the first and second rod to prevent the sliding of the two rods with respect to each other.

45. (Currently Amended) A method of supporting a musical instrument having legs of a fixed height, in a raised position relative to the floor, the method comprising:

providing a first end-lift assembly coupled to a second end-lift assembly via a support rod; supporting the legs of a first portion of the musical instrument on the first end-lift assembly;

supporting the legs of a second portion of the musical instrument on the second end-lift assembly; and

actuating a lift to raise a support surface on the first and second end-lift assemblies.

46. (Currently Amended) A method of supporting a musical instrument having legs of a fixed height, in a raised position relative to the floor, the method comprising:

- adjusting the separation between a first support surface and a second support surface on a first lift assembly to accommodate the legs of a first end of the musical instrument;
- adjusting the separation between a first support surface and a second support surface on a second lift assembly to accommodate the legs of a second end of the musical instrument;
- supporting the first end of the musical instrument on the first and second support surfaces of the first lift assembly;
- supporting the second end of the musical instrument on the first and second support surfaces of the second lift assembly; and
- actuating a lift to raise the support surfaces on the first and second end-lift assemblies.

47. (New) An instrument system comprising:

- a fixed height musical instrument having legs at a first and second end;
- an instrument lift comprising
 - a support rod;
 - two end-lifts connected by the support rod, each end-lift comprising
 - a frame;
 - a lifting frame coupled to the frame;
 - a lift extending between the frame and the lifting frame, the lift actuatable to move the lifting frame in a vertical direction with respect to the frame; and
 - a first and second platform adjustably coupled to the lifting frame and adapted to be selectively moved in a horizontal direction relative to the lifting frame to accommodate a percussion instrument;
- wherein the legs of one end of the instrument is supported by the first platform and the legs of the other end of the instrument is supported by the second platform.

48. (New) An instrument end-lift, comprising:

- a frame;
- a lifting frame coupled to the frame;

a lift extending between the frame and the lifting frame, the lift actuatable to move the lifting frame in a vertical direction with respect to the frame;

a first and second platform adjustably coupled to the lifting frame and adapted to be selectively moved in a horizontal direction relative to the lifting frame to accommodate a percussion instrument;

wherein the platform is designed to accommodate supporting the legs of a fixed height instrument.